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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/623,704	07/22/2003	Bernd Eppinger	01012-1010	4937
7590 DITTHAVONG & CARLSON, P.C. Suite A 10507 Braddock Rd Fairfax, VA 22032			EXAMINER ZEWDU, MELESS NMN	
			ART UNIT 2617	PAPER NUMBER
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE		MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
3 MONTHS		01/04/2007	PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/623,704	EPPINGER ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Meless N. Zewdu	2617

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1,2,5,8 and 9 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 3,4,6,7 and 10-14 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 22 July 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 1/29/04.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is the first on the merit of the instant application.
2. Claims 1-14 are pending in this action.

Claim Objections

Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: the phrase "determining the minimum" is incomplete. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: the claim needs a semi-colon in front of the word "averaging", at line 13. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim 2 is objected to because of the following informalities: the phrase "determining the maximum" is incomplete. Appropriate correction is required.

Claims 2, 8 and 9 are objected to because of the following informalities: all of the limitations need to be separated by a semi-colon (;), which in their current form are not. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim 8 is objected to because of the following informalities: the claim needs a colon (:) following the word "comprising", at line 29. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 1 recites the limitation "the current correlation" in line 12. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 2 recites the limitation "the maximum" in line 31. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 8 recites the limitation "the maximum" in line 7, page 5. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 9 recites the limitation "the maximum" in line 29. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ottosson et al. (Ottosson) (US 6,480,558 B1) in view of Chintawongvanich (US 6,427,531 B1).

As per claim 1: a method for synchronizing a CDM-signal that contains a pilot sequence (see abstract), overlaid with data sequence, comprising the following process steps:

correlating the total signal consisting of the transmitted pilot sequence and transmitted data sequence with a reference pilot sequence (see col. 5, line 43-col. 6, line 10). A known synchronization signal is same as a reference signal.

subtracting the correlation result time-delayed by one or more symbol durations of the pilot sequence from the current correlation result in order to suppress the pilot sequence (see col. 9, lines 5-25). But, Ottoson does not explicitly teach about incoherent averaging and determining the minimum (while asking the minimum of what?), as claimed by applicant. However, in the same field of endeavor, Chintawongvanich teach that an incoherent spectral averaging is a conventional technique used to enhance the detectability of a signal peak (see col. 2, line 63-col. 3, line 13; this conventional process also translates to a minimum of pulse repetition periods (see col. 3, lines 2-13). Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incoherent averaging a signal to enhance detectability since the technique is conventional or known in the art.

As per claim 5: Chintawongvanich teaches a method, wherein the incoherent averaging is performed by magnitude (peak) formation and subsequent summation over a plurality of symbols durations (see col. 2, line 63-col. 3, line 13). When the references are combined the incoherent averaging will follow the subtracting arrangement provided by Ottosson.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 8 and 10 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action.

Claim 2 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 3, 4, 6, 7, 12, 10 and 14 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Meless N. Zewdu whose telephone number is (571) 272-7873. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 am to 5:00 pm..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Banks-Harold Marsha can be reached on (571) 272-7905. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Any inquiry of a general nature relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

Meless Zewdu



Examiner

19 December 2006.